1511. [*Transferred to the 11th August, 1987.*]

Composite Mills of Sponge Iron etc.

1512. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow private companies to set up their own composite mills consisting of sponge iron units, arc furnaces and rolling mills alongwith captive power units; and

(b) if so, by when Government propose to issue guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) The existing guidelines for setting up of electric arc furnaces and rolling mills in the private sector are under review. The setting up of sponge iron units has been delicensed with effect from March, 1985. However, industrial undertakings that fall within the purview of the MRTP Act are required to obtain industrial licences for this purpose.

Midi Steel Mills

1513. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SHEO KUMAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the projected gap between demand and production of steel by end of the year 1994-95 and the manner in which it is likely to be met; and

(b) whether Government proposes to allow private sector to set up midi steel mills basesd on electric arc furnaces steel making during Eighth Plan, if so, what are the details?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). The latest study by the National Council of Applied Economic Research on the demand and availability of steel in the country shows that there is a surplus of long products upto 1995 but a continuous deficit of flat products. The gap between demand and availability of finished steel in flat products upto 1994-95 has been estimated to be 1.17 million tonnes. Government are reviewing the startegy for increasing steel making capacity in the country with a view to closing this gap.

Earning from sale of edible oil sold by the STC

1514. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the STC has sold in the Overseas Market certain quantity of edible oil previously contracted for import; and

(b) if so, what is the net earning of foreign exchange by these transactions?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the edible oils operations are on Government account, the earnings were not on STC account.

New Techniques in the Field of Agriculture

1515. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that results of Research and Uniformed techniques in agriculture are not easily made available to the grass root agriculturists;